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2 October 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Chief, Interdepartmental Affairs Staff

SUBJECT: Background Material for Your Lunch with the President (C)

1. In support of your anticipated discussion of the proposed AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia during your lunch with the President on Monday, I am providing the following:

--A copy of the material provided Admiral Inman and [redacted]
[redacted] for their testimonies before the Senate Armed
Services and Foreign Relations Committees

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--Copies of some relevant cables

--Copies of the recent testimonies of Secretaries Weinberger
and Haig. (S)

2. In addition, I have asked that Admiral Inman and [redacted]
meet with you at 9:00 a.m. on Monday to give you the benefit of their
discussions on the Hill. Charlie is currently working his way around town
to ascertain where things stand. [redacted]

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3. There is no doubt that this is going to be a tough one for the
Administration. [redacted]

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cc: [redacted]

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Tab A: [] talking points on Saudi stability and the Arab-Israeli military balance

Tab B: NFAC assessment of AWACS vulnerability to Arab and Israeli threats

Tab C: NFAC assessment of Soviet AWACS program and Soviet reactions to the proposed sale

Tab D: DIA assessment of Soviet AWACS program (generally consistent with NFAC, except for some key operational characteristics --see DIA Summary and Page 3, Paragraph IV.C. in NFAC paper -- attributable to differing engineering analysis, not too dissimilar to differences over Backfire's characteristics)

Tab E: Cables from D/FBI to you

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Tab F: [] from Jidda

Tab G: Haig and Weinberger testimonies.

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